



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
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## News Release

SBOH 01-11

**For immediate release:** October 8, 2001

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### **Emergency response, appearance by best-selling public health reporter Laurie Garrett, top Board of Health agenda**

*October 9, 7–9 p.m., and October 10, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Upper Terrace Room, WestCoast Yakima Center Hotel, 607 East Yakima Avenue, Yakima, Wash.*

**OLYMPIA** – The Board of Health meets Tuesday, October 9 and Wednesday, October 10 in Yakima in conjunction with the Joint Conference on Health, the annual meeting of state and local public health systems.

In addition to its regular session all day on Wednesday, the Board has added a Tuesday evening special session on “The Emergency Response Capacity of the Public Health System in Washington State.” The Board will receive a briefing from several of the state’s leading experts.

On Wednesday, the Board will hear from Pulitzer Prize-winner Laurie Garrett. Her latest book, *Betrayal of Trust*, explores the shortcomings of the global public health infrastructure and contains a chapter called “Biowar.” She has been covering the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack as a reporter for *Newsday*. Ms. Garrett will join the Board at 1:30 p.m. after presenting the keynote address at the 11 a.m. closing plenary session of the Joint Conference on Health.

Presenters at the Tuesday evening session will include Mary Selecky, Secretary, Department of Health; Mark Oberle, Associate Dean, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Washington; Dr. Larry Jecha, Health Officer, Benton-Franklin Health District and Klickitat County Health Department; Dr. Jeffrey S. Duchin, Chief, Communicable Disease Control, Epidemiology and Immunization Section, Public Health Seattle & King County; Chris Martin, Administrative Director, Emergency Services, Harborview Medical Center.

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## Board of Health Meeting

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On Wednesday, the Board will review a draft report on states that require well-child checkups for children entering kindergarten. The Board will also hear a request from local health jurisdictions to raise the fee charged to cover training costs for food handlers. The Board will devote much of the afternoon to a review of proposed committee work plans for 2001-03 priority projects.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health or by visiting the board's Web site at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/>.

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<p>The State Board of Health is composed of 10 members appointed by the Governor to represent the people of the state. The board's mission is to develop policies to promote, protect, maintain, and improve the health of Washingtonians. Visit the board's Web site at <a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/">www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/</a>.</p>
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